

# PRIORITY SETTING 2025

*For the Comprehensive Planning Committee*

*Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.*

# MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION

- Medical Transportation is the provision of nonemergency transportation that enables an eligible client to access or be retained in core medical and support services.
- **Unallowable costs include:**
  - Direct cash payments or cash reimbursements to clients
  - Direct maintenance expenses (tires, repairs, etc.) of a privately-owned vehicle
  - Any other costs associated with a privately-owned vehicle such as lease, loan payments, insurance, license, or registration fees.

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- 29.7% of respondents reported transportation problems as the reason they missed an HIV medical appointment in the previous 12 months
- 36.44% reported using the service in the last 12 months
- 5.93% not needing this service

## WORTH NOTING

- **Program Guidance:** Can be provided through: Provider contracts; Mileage reimbursements; Purchase/lease of organizational vehicles; Volunteer drivers; Vouchers and tokens
- Second highest reported need at intake for CSU at 59.12% (2023)
- **Limitations/Considerations:**
  - All trips classified as one-way
  - Payer of last resort (must use ModivCare first)

# HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Housing Assistance provides transitional, short-term, or emergency housing assistance to enable a client or family to gain or maintain outpatient/ambulatory health services and treatment, including temporary assistance necessary to prevent homelessness and to gain or maintain access to medical care.

Must provide clients with medical/supportive services OR enable access to services.

Cannot be used for mortgage payments.

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- 11% of respondents reported needing but not receiving this service (#1 for unmet need)
- 64.7% rent or own a home
- 2.6% were in transitional housing
- 1.7% lived in a shelter
- 0.8% were staying with family/friends

## WORTH NOTING

- Waiting list for HOPWA and Philadelphia Choice voucher program are both 7 to 8 years for people not currently homeless
- The linkage between medication nonadherence and unstable housing/homelessness is well documented <sup>1 2 3</sup>
- 2023 CSU data – 58% (3<sup>rd</sup> most requested)
- In Philadelphia 2023, over 1/3 of households would not be able to comfortably afford the median monthly rent
- For the 2023 NHBS cycle for transgender women, 31% of respondents reported unstable housing
- 2018-2022 MMP: 22.5% reported unstable housing or homelessness in past 12 months

# FOOD BANK/HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Food Bank/Home Delivered Meals refers to the provision of actual food items, hot meals, or a voucher program to purchase food. This also includes the provision of essential non-food items that are limited to the following:

- Personal hygiene products
- Household cleaning supplies
- Water filtration/purification systems in communities where issues of water safety exist

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- 32.6% used this service in the past year

## WORTH NOTING:

- **Program Guidance:** Unallowable costs include household appliances, pet foods, and other non-essential products
- 2023 CSU data – 62% (most requested)
- 2022 Food Insecurity Rates <sup>1</sup>:
  - Philadelphia: 17.5%
  - Salem County: 12.1%
  - Camden County: 11.3%
  - Delaware County: 9.7%
- Current estimates regarding tariffs predict a 1.6% - 4% rise in cost, depending on the product <sup>2</sup>

# LEGAL/OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Legal/Other Professional Services involves professional/licensed help with legal matters related to or arising from HIV, including:

- Benefits assistance
- Discrimination because of HIV status
- Power of attorney
- Living wills
- Permanence planning—counseling for custody and placement of minors after a parent/caregiver is either deceased or can no longer care for them
- Tax preparation

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- 8% of respondents reported needing but not receiving this service (#3 for unmet need)

## WORTH NOTING:

- **Program Guidance:** Legal assistance is not available for criminal cases
- Current administration & possibility for discrimination
- Potential for more difficult access with public benefits
- Access to benefits, particularly SSDI, is essential support for many of the EMA's PLWH

# OUTREACH SERVICES

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

Outreach Services provide the following activities:

1. Identification of people who do not know their HIV status
2. Linkage or reengagement of PLWH who know their status into HRSA RWHAP services, including provision of information about health care coverage options
3. Reengagement of people who know their status into Ambulatory Outpatient Health Services

- 21.9% of respondents used this service to engage with or reengage with HIV care

## WORTH NOTING:

- **Program Guidance:** Funds may not be used to pay for HIV counseling or testing under this service category
- *Targeted to populations known, through local epidemiologic data or review of service utilization data or strategic planning processes, to be at disproportionate risk for HIV infection*
- Concurrent diagnoses rates (2023):
  - ~1 in 4 (23%) in NJ counties
  - ~1 in 5 (18%) in Philadelphia
  - ~1 in 4 (23%) in PA counties

# RESPITE CARE

Respite Care is the provision of periodic respite care in community or home-based settings that includes non-medical assistance designed to provide care for an HRSA RWHAP-eligible client to relieve the primary caregiver responsible for their day-today care.

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- 6.4% of respondents had never heard of this service
- 8% used this service in the last 12 months

## WORTH NOTING:

- **Program Guidance:** Only available within a licensed or certified provider setting –funds may not be used for off premise social/recreational activities or to pay for a client's gym membership

# PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Psychosocial Support Services provide group or individual support and counseling services to assist HRSA RWHAP-eligible PLWH to address behavioral and physical health concerns.

Activities provided under the Psychosocial Support Services may include:

- Bereavement counseling
- Caregiver/respite support (HRSA RW Part D)
- Child abuse and neglect counseling
- HIV support groups
- Nutrition counseling provided by a non-registered dietitian (see Medical Nutrition Therapy Services)
- Pastoral care/counseling services

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- 19.5% reported attending support groups in the past 12 months
- 8% reported unmet need for this service

## WORTH NOTING:

- **Program Guidance:** HRSA RWHAP-funded pastoral counseling must be available to all eligible clients regardless of their religious denominational affiliation
- Older adults with HIV (50+) more vulnerable to loneliness & social isolation <sup>1</sup> which is associated with poor health outcomes



# HEALTH EDUCATION/RISK REDUCTION

Health Education/Risk Reduction is the provision of education to clients living with HIV about HIV transmission and how to reduce the risk of HIV transmission.

- Education on risk reduction strategies to reduce transmission such as preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP) for clients' partners and treatment as prevention
- Education on health care coverage options (e.g., qualified health plans through the Marketplace, Medicaid coverage, Medicare coverage)
- Health literacy
- Treatment adherence education

## 2021 Consumer Survey Data

- Sexually active participants reported that their HIV-negative partner...
  - Was on PrEP (8.4%)
  - Was not on PrEP (14.8%)
- In their HIV medical care, information about PrEP was offered to 13.6% of the sample and disclosure support to 11.4%
- Condoms/safer sex kits reported as most offered harm reduction service by a provider at 27.5%

## WORTH NOTING:

- **Program Guidance:** Cannot be delivered anonymously